

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 7, 9, and 13 were rejected as anticipated by HIRABAYASHI et al. 5,726,875. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

With regard to claim 1, HIRABAYASHI et al. do not disclose the means for producing a switching device control signal so that in use when the switching device is in a non-conducting state the primary energy storage device stores the output from the rectifier and the secondary energy storage device is electrically isolated from the primary energy storage device and supplies an electrical output to associated electrical equipment, and when the rectifier is no longer charging the primary energy storage device the switching device is in a conducting state so that the primary and secondary energy storage devices are electrically connected and the secondary energy storage device stores the output from the primary energy storage device, and the associated electrical equipment is supplied with an electrical output.

Specifically, the reference does not disclose that the transistor 24 is switched so that it electrically isolates the secondary capacitor 31 from the primary capacitor 22 while the primary capacitor is being charged from the rectifier 21. The reference also does not disclose that the transistor 24 is switched to a conductive state to transfer charge from the

primary capacitor 22 to the secondary capacitor 31 when the primary capacitor is not being charged by the rectifier.

By contrast, the reference discloses that transistor 24 is controlled by comparison transistor 26 and its associated components in such a way that the conductivity of the transistor 24 is switched or varied so that a constant DC output voltage is achieved (see, for example, claim 20 of the reference at column 8.) Both capacitors 22 and 31 are simply smoothing capacitors (column 3, lines 3-45, especially line 41). In order for the device in the reference to switch in relation to the charging/not charging of the primary capacitor by the rectifier, some connection to the secondary output of the rectifier would have to be provided; there is no such connection disclosed and thus the switch does not operate in the manner claimed.

Accordingly, these claims avoid the rejection under §102.

Claim 3 was rejected as unpatentable over HIRABAYASHI et al. in view of ALDRIDGE et al. 5,548,463; claim 4 was rejected over HIRABAYASHI et al. in view of HOOLE 5,977,658; claims 5-6, 8, and 10 were rejected over HIRABAYASHI et al. in view of BENNETT 6,469,919; and claims 11-12 were rejected over HIRABAYASHI et al.. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested because these claims depend from claim 1 that is allowable for the reasons given above.

Claim 4 is further allowable because there is no motivation to combine the references. HOOLE describes a switching circuit that is activated by two AC waveforms and that switches when the two AC waveforms are 180° out of phase to create a voltage doubling effect. This is not an isolating power supply; it is voltage doubler that operates such that at times the load is connected directly to the incoming supply without any form of isolation from the incoming supply.

Claims 5-6, 8, and 10 are further allowable because BENNETT teaches a circuit having an inverter. It has a DC input and produces an AC output. The switching elements serve to convert the incoming DC to outgoing AC. The inductors are part of a filter circuit and are not being used as energy storage devices that store energy from the incoming or for the connected load.

New claim 14 has been added and is allowable because the references do not disclose that the switching device is arranged so that when the switching device is in the non-conducting state the secondary energy storage device is electrically isolated from the primary energy storage device and the secondary energy storage device supplies an electrical output to the electrical equipment, and so that when the switching device is in the conducting state the primary energy storage device charges the secondary energy storage device and the primary and secondary storage devices together supply an

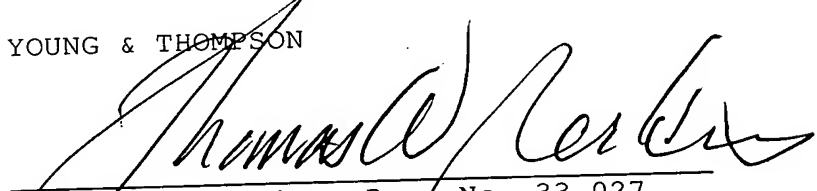
electrical output to the electrical equipment. Support for this is found, for example, in the paragraph bridging pages 7-8.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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